Rice Emergency Medical Services
EMSP 491: EMS Research Course

Syllabus and Schedule

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Course Description

EMSP 491 is an independent program of study for students interested in research in prehospital medicine. Prehospital medicine research can take several approaches; projects and student supervision would likely also be variable. Retrospective chart review is a valuable tool to measure patient care practices, scene management, provider efficacy, and patient outcome. Medical device research about a new tool for EMS providers helps improve the practice for the future. New pharmacological options for prehospital care involves training providers and review charts to measure patient outcomes. Some research projects may have more than one goal. Prehospital medicine research may have a goal of promoting evidence-based medicine, improve EMS tools, and/or educating care providers more effectively.

All students will complete a research project under the supervision of a faculty member. There is no formal classroom instruction. Students will perform research with a faculty member from Baylor College of Medicine, spending at least nine hours per week actively working on their project for three hours of credit. Each student will prepare a research proposal, bi-monthly reports, and a final project.

Course Objectives

Each student will set goals for their individual projects that will help give direction to the semester's work. Broader objectives for all students include:

1. Identifying a project that will have an influence on prehospital medicine, and drafting a plan for active participation in prehospital research.
2. Writing functional short and long term goals that will culminate in a semester project.
3. Introduction to academic leadership skills in emergency medicine through mentorship and participation in the process of EMS research.

Course Grading Policy

Project proposal/abstract	15%
Ongoing research and Bi-monthly reports	60%
Final Project	25%

Course Structure

As a collaborative course, this course will involve a collaboration of faculty to supervise the student participants and oversee the course goals. There will be three faculty participants. The Course Director, a member of the Rice EMS Medical Director Team as well as a Faculty member at BCM, will identify upcoming and ongoing research projects, and help the individual student and the Faculty physician connect. The Program Director will serve as a liaison between course personnel and student participants. The Physician Faculty will directly supervise students participating in research projects as part of this course. The Faculty will have the primary responsibility in giving the student feedback on their ongoing work, as well as their poster project and/or presentation for the Undergraduate Research Symposium.

Research Considerations

Participation in this course with a Physician Faculty member from BCM will almost certainly involve interaction with research data, patient records, and/or patients. Students will also likely regularly interface with other personnel directly involved in projects, other physicians from BCM, and/or personnel from EMS agencies. As part of each student's individual project, students are obligated to make themselves familiar with and following the privacy practices of any and all agencies they may be working with in the course of the semester. Students who participate in this course must follow REMS' Standard Operating Procedures, taking all necessary steps to respect Protected Health Information. At no time should any aspect of research that is stored on paper or electronically that includes PHI be accessible to people not participating in this research course. It is expected that all students who participate in this course will represent Rice EMS and Rice University with other institution's Faculty, staff, and patients as competent prehospital providers, interested in learning and engaged in a collaborative EMS research project.

Project Abstract & Bi-Weekly Reports

Each student will submit a project abstract and bi-monthly reports. Notes on format may be found on the Rice EMS website/research course. Due dates are listed on the attached schedule.

Students should note there is not a specific, required format, and length of submissions does not impact grade. Identifiable goals with concrete progress noted in clear, succinct reports is the ideal. Regular feedback and questions for clarification on the Abstract and reports will be offered by the Physician Faculty, Course, and Program Directors – student response shown through ongoing discussion, focusing short and long term goals, and an ability to describe this process in the written summary of work is the goal.

Course Policies
Course policies are consistent with those of the Rice EMS and the University (as outlined in the Rice University Student Handbook).

Additional Regulations for Coursework

- No extension of time or opportunities to improve a grade will be given to any individual student, except for verified illness or justified institutional absence from campus
- All assignments will be covered by the Rice University Honor Code.

ADA Disability Accommodations
Any student with a documented disability seeking academic adjustments or accommodations is requested to speak with the Program Director during the first two weeks of class. All discussions will remain confidential. Students with disabilities should also contact Disability Support.

Schedule

Monday, 14 May 2018 First day of classes

Friday, 25 May 2018 Project Abstract due (10p)

Each student should identify four dates for turning in a bi-monthly report on their progress, on even intervals during the summer session (for a total of six submissions – proposal, four bi-monthly reports, & final report.) The dates/times should be included in the project abstract. A log of hours worked should also be kept and turned in with the final report on 10 August. All students are expected to complete approximately 115 hours of work during the summer session.

Friday, 10 August 2018 Final report and supplemental course evaluation due (10p)